

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 COME-00 AF-10 ARA-10  
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 OIC-02 L-03 ABF-01 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 ICA-11 /101 W  
-----076869 051731Z /46  
R 051638Z JUN 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0448  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 08539

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: AORG, WMO  
SUBJECT: ARABIC AS OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGE IN WMO

1. EC-XXX/DOC. 23, ADD 1 PROPOSES AN ADDITIONAL ITEM FOR NEXT YEAR'S EIGHTH CONGRESS AS FOLLOWS: TWO MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE NOW PROPOSED THE INCLUSION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR EIGHTH CONGRESS: THE USE OF THE ARABIC LANGUAGE AS AN OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE ORGANIZATION.

2. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, USDEL WILL NOT OPPOSE INCLUSION OF ITEM ON AGENDA. IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED THAT THERE WILL BE ANY DISCUSSION IN CURRENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

3. INFORMALLY, USDEL WILL STATE POSITION THAT US IS NOT OPPOSED TO USE OF ANY LANGUAGE, BUT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE COSTS OF AND METHODS USED FOR PAYING FOR LANGUAGE SERVICES. GEOMETRIC EFFECT OF EACH ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE ADDS SUBSTANTIALLY TO COSTS AND DIVERTS LIMITED RESOURCES FROM HIGHER PRIORITIES. USDEL WILL SUGGEST USER PAY FORMULA AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, WILL TRY TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR US INITIATIVE  
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TO BE LAUNCHED WELL IN ADVANCE OF EIGHTH CONGRESS.

4. FYI: CHINESE BECAME THE FIFTH OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGE OF WMO IN 1975. AS FIRST STEP TOWARDS FULL IMPLEMENTATION, WMO IN 1976-79 PROVIDES CHINESE INTERPRETATION FACILITIES FOR THE CONGRESS, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ASIA. DURING THE CURRENT

PERIOD THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES INTERPRETERS. 1976  
COST OF WMO LANGUAGE STAFF WAS \$1,780,000 OR 18.9 PER CENT  
OF ANNUAL REGULAR BUDGET. END FYI.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IF DEPARTMENT AGREES, IT IS SUG-  
GESTED THAT ACTION PLAN IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATIONS  
FOR EIGHTH CONGRESS BE FORMULATED, PERHAPS SIMILAR TO THAT  
IN ICAO A YEAR AGO. IF PLAN IS TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT WOULD  
SEEM ESSENTIAL TO START WORKING ON IT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.  
VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GENEVA08539  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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